GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3838
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2002
EXCISE DUTY AND INCOME TAX CLAIMS
PRABHA RAU;VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been considerable increase in the quantum of disputed excise duty and income tax claims on the corporate sector, locked up in appeals in the courts, Income Tax Appellate Tribunal, etc;

(b) if so, the number of such cases and the amount involved and the main reason for delayed pendencies; and

(c) the steps have been taken or proposed to be taken to ensure the early finalisation of all the pending cases in the interest of effecting huge recoveries?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE & COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE. N. RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b)	No. of cases	Amount involved
Direct Taxes	2,57,325	Rs. 41,147 crore
Excise Duty	31,931	Rs. 9,480 crore

The reasons for pendency are that the assessees take recourse to all available legal remedies, upto the apex court. Moreover, the appellate authorities, including Courts, often grant stay orders on recovery.
(c) Steps taken for expediting finalisation of the pending cases include weekly monitoring of pending cases, bunching of appeals involving similar issues for quick disposal, reducing unnecessary litigation and raising the monetary limits for filing appeals. Special measures are also taken to get the stay orders vacated and seek early hearing of such cases by filing appropriate petitions in the courts.